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EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

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- (30) Priority: 28.07.1999 US 146095
- (71) Applicant: Pfizer Products Inc. Groton, Connecticut 06340 (US)

- (72) Inventor: Laties, Alan Malev
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19119 (US)
- (74) Representative:
 McMunn, Watson Palmer et al
 Pfizer Limited
 Patents Department
 Ramsgate Road
 Sandwich, Kent CT13 9NJ (GB)
- (54) Methods and compositions for treating diseases and conditions of the eye
- (57) Methods for the prevention and treatment of diseases and conditions of the eye including, but are not limited to: central retinal artery occlusion; central retinal vein occlusion; optic neuropathy including, but not limited to, anterior ischemic optic neuropathy and glaucomatous optic neuropathy; and macular (dry) degeneration are disclosed. These methods comprise administering to a patient a prophylactically or therapeutically effective amount of a cyclic guanosine 3',5'-monophosphate phosphodiesterase type 5 inhibitor. Pharmaceutical compositions and dosage forms comprising cyclic guanosine 3',5'-monophosphate phosphodiesterase type 5 inhibitors are also disclosed.



PARTIAL EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

which under Rule 45 of the European Patent ConventionEP 00 30 6235 shall be considered, for the purposes of subsequent proceedings, as the European search report

	Citation of document with	indication, where appropriate,	Delman	
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	Place of search THE HAGUE	Date of completion of the search	Cin	Examinor
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INCOMPLETE SEARCH SHEET C

Application Number EP 00 30 6235

Claim(s) searched completely: 2-10

Claim(s) searched incompletely: 1.11-15

Reason for the limitation of the search:

Present claims 1,11-15 relate to a compound defined by reference to a desirable characteristic or property, namely "a cyclic guanosine 3',5'-monophosphate phosphodiesterase type 5 inhibitor". The claims cover all compounds having this characteristic or property, whereas the application provides support within the meaning of Article 84 EPC and/or disclosure within the meaning of Article 83 EPC for only a very limited number of such compounds. In the present case, the claims so lack support, and the application so lacks disclosure, that a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope is impossible. Independent of the above reasoning, the claims also lack clarity (Article 84 EPC). An attempt is made to define the compound by reference to a result to be achieved. Again, this lack of clarity in the present case is such as to render a meaningful search over the whole of the claimed scope impossible. Consequently, the search has been carried out for those parts of the claims which appear to be clear, supported and disclosed, namely those parts relating to the compounds disclosed in claims 2-7.

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